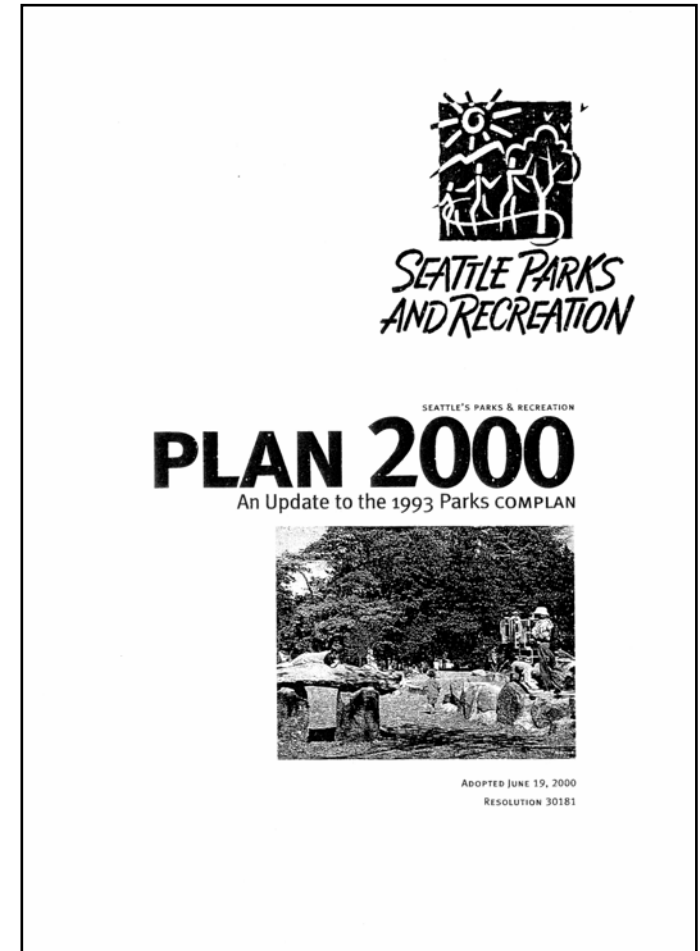


## 4. CURRENT HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Current Seattle Parks and Recreation policies provide direction for the future preservation of historic resources in many ways. In particular, the *Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000* contains policies that directly address treatment of historic parks resources, especially the Olmsted Brothers system. The plan also contains many policies that address the system as a whole, which has implications for historic resource treatment.

This chapter identifies current policies of the *Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000* that affect historic resources.



*Cover of Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000,  
adopted June 19, 2000, Resolution 30181.*

## **Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000**

*Vision Statement, page 4.* Seattle's parks and recreation system will be a neighborhood-based system of open space, parks, facilities, and programs that captures the spirit of Seattle's magnificent setting in the Olmsted tradition. Seattle's parks and recreation system will:

- Be connected by boulevards, trails, public transportation, and green streets,
- Encompass views and provide opportunities for the enjoyment of the vast water resources in Seattle,
- Be linked closely with the City's neighborhoods, schools, and other city services,
- Be maintained for public enjoyment, stewardship of resources, and a healthy environment, and
- Be brought to life through programs, events, employees, and the efforts of volunteers.

*Page 5.* The system represents a rich heritage. More recognition will be given to the natural and human history of the city and neighborhoods. Acquisition and development will build upon the landmark core as planned by the Olmsted Brothers.

*#13, page 16.* For park amenities and signage, strive for consistency throughout the system as a means both of establishing identity and of reducing maintenance costs, while recognizing special needs associated with future designation of Historic and Natural Resource Areas.

*#8, page 25.* Conserve and enhance the Olmsted planned and designed parks as key elements of Seattle's park legacy with it special aesthetic and design considerations, and pursue opportunities to expand the system with the same attention to the original vision.

*#10, page 25.* Provide special landscaping, signage, or other design elements that reflect the importance of boulevards and trails as a major link in the City's comprehensive open space system.

*#1, page 26.* The spirit and guiding principles of the original 1903 Olmsted Plan will be expanded through open space acquisitions, park development, and new or improved boulevards and trails to serve as park connectors.

*#7, page 31.* Park Natural Resource Areas and Park Historic Resources Areas will be designated and managed with use limited as necessary to conserve natural and historic resources within parks, including the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat.

*#8, page 31.* The Olmsted system and individual boulevards and parks comprising the system will be designated as Park Historic Resource Areas to be treated as a living legacy. Park features developed through the WPA will be given similar treatment. Procedures for adequately considering historic planning and design intent in current management practices will be part of the planning for future restoration and improvements.

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**Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000**

*#9, page 31.* A conservation and historic preservation ethic will be incorporated into staff training and procedures.

*#12, page 31.* Park maintenance will be based upon available funding and measurable maintenance objectives established for park categories as supplemented by special procedures for Park Natural and Historic Resource Areas.

*#16, page 31.* Increased emphasis will be placed on maintenance of design intent, access and continuity, and visual character of the boulevards.

*SPR-G, page 73.* Extend the vision of the Olmsted Brothers, focusing on those areas that were not part of the original plans or are underserved by the plans that were implemented.

*SPR-G2, page 73.* Emphasize both the preservation and enhancement of Seattle's natural setting, focusing on the greening of parklands, boulevards, streets, and trails and the enhanced quality of all bodies of water within the parks system.

*SPR-G3, page 73.* Work with neighborhoods and other community based groups to preserve and expand open space, boulevards, and trails, focusing on the most deficient areas, and encouraging appropriate uses consistent with the characteristics of the site as well as future development and maintenance requirements.

*RMP 12, page 76.* [For Volunteer Park,] restore park roadways and utilities. Upgrade play area and wading pool for ADA accessibility. Restore fountains/pools. Work with Seattle Public Utilities to integrate revisions to the Volunteer Park Reservoir into the historic park setting, and close off-leash area.

*BT1, page 77.* Continue to manage Lake Washington Boulevard, and other boulevards in order to preserve and enhance their Olmsted heritage.

*PH1, page 80.* Designate Park Historic Areas within appropriate parks, including consideration of 1930s WPA-era landmark improvements as well as Olmsted planned and/or designed parks. Establish development and maintenance guidelines for such areas. Consider establishment of a Department conservator position to maintain historical information, records, and documents as well as coordinate review of major maintenance and development proposals.

Coordinate planning for boulevards and trails with planning for natural and historic resources.

Present history through interpretive efforts, education, and related programs (generally to be incorporated into public information, interpretive displays, environmental and recreation programming efforts).

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***Seattle Parks and Recreation Plan 2000***

Work with community groups to expand neighborhood history as part of community center programming, including display of historic photographs in community centers.

Complete the planned new park space atop the Lincoln Reservoir adjacent to Bobby Morris Playfield. Develop the park consistent with the historic character of the old gatehouse and other features that date from the Olmsted era.

Expand and incorporate historical programming and interpretation into environmental education efforts.